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## Orange KONGPRESSOR

# Orange Kongressor Optical Class A Compressor Pedal User Manual

Model: KONGPRESSOR

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Orange Kongressor is an analog Class A compression pedal designed to add an organic, three-dimensional quality to your guitar rig. Inspired by iconic vintage optical studio units, it utilizes a re-issue of the famous vactrol VTL5C3 optocoupler, known for its distinctive sound on numerous hit records. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Kongressor pedal.

### Key Features:

- Studio Quality Optical Compressor with Ultra-Smooth Bloom
- Up to 12dB Clean Boost capability
- Internal Charge Pump for optimal performance
- Transparent Buffered Bypass circuitry

## 2. CONTROLS AND FUNCTIONS

The Kongressor pedal features intuitive controls to shape your sound. Familiarize yourself with each knob's function:



Figure 1: Front view of the Orange Kongressor pedal, showing the control layout.

**VOLUME:**

Adjusts the overall output level of the pedal. Can be used to achieve a clean boost when compression is set low.

**CHIME:**

An active treble circuit that allows for boosting or cutting of high frequencies, adding brightness or warmth to your tone.

## **SQUASH:**

Controls the amount of compression applied to your signal. Higher settings result in more pronounced compression and sustain.

## **RELEASE:**

Determines how quickly the compressor returns to its uncompressed state after the signal drops below the threshold. Ranges from fast to slow.

## **ATTACK:**

Controls how quickly the compressor engages after the signal exceeds the threshold. Ranges from fast to slow, affecting the initial transient of your notes.

## **Footswitch:**

Engages or bypasses the effect. The blue LED will illuminate, indicating when the pedal is active.

## **3. SETUP**

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Follow these steps to properly connect your Orange Kongressor pedal:

1. **Power Connection:** Connect a 9-12V DC power supply (center-negative) to the power input jack on the side of the pedal. The internal charge pump will convert 9V to 18V for optimal headroom. The pedal can also be battery powered.



Figure 2: Side view illustrating the DC power input.

2. **Input Connection:** Connect your guitar or other instrument to the 1/4 inch audio input jack on the right side of the pedal.
3. **Output Connection:** Connect the 1/4 inch audio output jack on the left side of the pedal to your amplifier or the next pedal in your signal chain.



Figure 3: Angled view showing the input and output jacks.

4. **Power On:** Once all connections are secure, activate the pedal by pressing the footswitch. The blue LED will illuminate, indicating the pedal is active.

## 4. OPERATING THE PEDAL

The Kongpressor is designed for versatile use, from subtle signal evening to pronounced sustain and boost. Experiment with the controls to find your desired sound.

- **Subtle Compression:** For a natural, transparent compression that evens out your playing dynamics, set the SQUASH knob to a lower position. Adjust VOLUME to match your desired output level.
- **Increased Sustain:** Turn the SQUASH knob higher for more noticeable compression and extended sustain. You may need to adjust the VOLUME to compensate for perceived loudness changes.
- **Clean Boost:** With the SQUASH knob set low (minimal compression), increase the VOLUME knob to use the pedal as a transparent clean boost.
- **Tone Shaping with CHIME:** Use the CHIME control to fine-tune the high-frequency content. Turn clockwise to add sparkle, or counter-clockwise to mellow out brighter tones.
- **Attack and Release:** These controls allow you to tailor how the compressor reacts to your playing.
  - A *fast attack* (counter-clockwise) will compress the initial transient of your notes, resulting in a smoother, less percussive sound.
  - A *slow attack* (clockwise) allows more of the initial pick attack to pass through before compression engages, preserving dynamics.
  - A *fast release* (counter-clockwise) will quickly return the signal to its uncompressed state, which can sound more natural for some playing styles.
  - A *slow release* (clockwise) will hold the compression longer, increasing sustain and potentially creating a 'pumping' effect at extreme settings.

## 5. SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Model Name</b>	KONGPRESSOR
<b>Brand</b>	Orange
<b>Type</b>	Optical Class A Compressor Pedal
<b>Signal Format</b>	Analog
<b>Power Source</b>	9-12V DC (Center-Negative) or Battery Powered
<b>Voltage</b>	9V (Internal charge pump to 18V)
<b>Connectors</b>	1/4 inch Audio Input, 1/4 inch Audio Output
<b>Dimensions (L x W x H)</b>	6 x 4 x 5 inches
<b>Item Weight</b>	1.15 pounds
<b>Body Material</b>	Metal Housing
<b>Color</b>	Orange, Transparent (Artwork)

## 6. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Kongpressor pedal, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the pedal's exterior. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, which can damage the finish and artwork.
- **Storage:** Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures when not in use.

- **Power:** Always use a compatible 9-12V DC center-negative power supply. Disconnect power when the pedal is not in use for extended periods.
- **Connections:** Periodically check all cable connections for tightness and wear. Loose connections can lead to signal loss or noise.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your Kongpressor pedal, try the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound:**
  - Ensure all cables (input, output, power) are securely connected.
  - Verify that the power supply is functioning correctly and meets the 9-12V DC center-negative requirement.
  - Check if your guitar and amplifier are working properly by bypassing the pedal.
- **Unwanted Noise/Hum:**
  - Ensure you are using a regulated power supply.
  - Try isolating the pedal from other power sources or pedals to identify interference.
  - Check for faulty cables.
- **Effect Not Engaging:**
  - Confirm the blue LED illuminates when the footswitch is pressed. If not, check power.
  - Ensure the VOLUME knob is not set to zero.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, please contact Orange customer support.

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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Orange products are built to high standards and come with a manufacturer's warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Orange Amplification website for detailed warranty terms and conditions.

### Customer Support:

For technical assistance, service, or warranty inquiries, please contact Orange customer support:

**Address:** OAKLAND, NJ, 07436 US

**Website:** [www.orangeamps.com](http://www.orangeamps.com)